

United States Attorney's Office Eastern District of Michigan

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PRESS RELEASE

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Former Holly Controller Sentenced Today on Tax Charges

Detroit, Michigan - Pamela Blodgett, 57, of Holly, Michigan, former Controller for Vinyl Tech Window Systems, was sentenced today in federal court to 36 months imprisonment, followed by one year of supervised release after earlier pleading guilty to an Information charging her with aiding and assisting in the preparation of a false 2003 tax return, announced United States Attorney Barbara L. McQuade. Chief Judge Gerald E. Rosen also ordered Blodgett to pay approximately \$570,000 in restitution to the Internal Revenue Service.

United States Attorney McQuade was joined in the announcement by Special Agent in Charge Maurice M. Aouate, Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation Division.

According to court records, during the 2003 through 2006 tax years, Blodgett embezzled over \$1.7 million for her personal use from her employer, Vinyl Tech Window Systems. As part of her responsibilities, she had authority to issue checks for

paying legitimate expenses. She embezzled funds by issuing checks to Valley Lawn Maintenance, a company owned and operated by her husband, William Blodgett. Pamela Blodgett concealed the embezzlement by making false entries in the corporate check register and computer accounting programs, listing legitimate vendors as the payees of the checks. She assisted in the preparation of her joint tax returns for the years 2003 through 2006, failing to report this income, and caused an underpayment of over \$570,000 in taxes due and owing to the Internal Revenue Service.

"No matter the source of your income, even if it's stolen or illegal, it remains taxable," said Aouate. "IRS Criminal Investigation will vigorously investigate any individual who knowingly and willfully evades his or her tax obligation."

United States Attorney McQuade thanked the IRS Criminal Investigation for the investigation of the case.